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North Pacific Observer Program Update

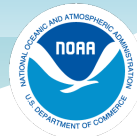
Freezer Longline Coalition Symposium
May 5, 2025

2024 Observer Data Collections



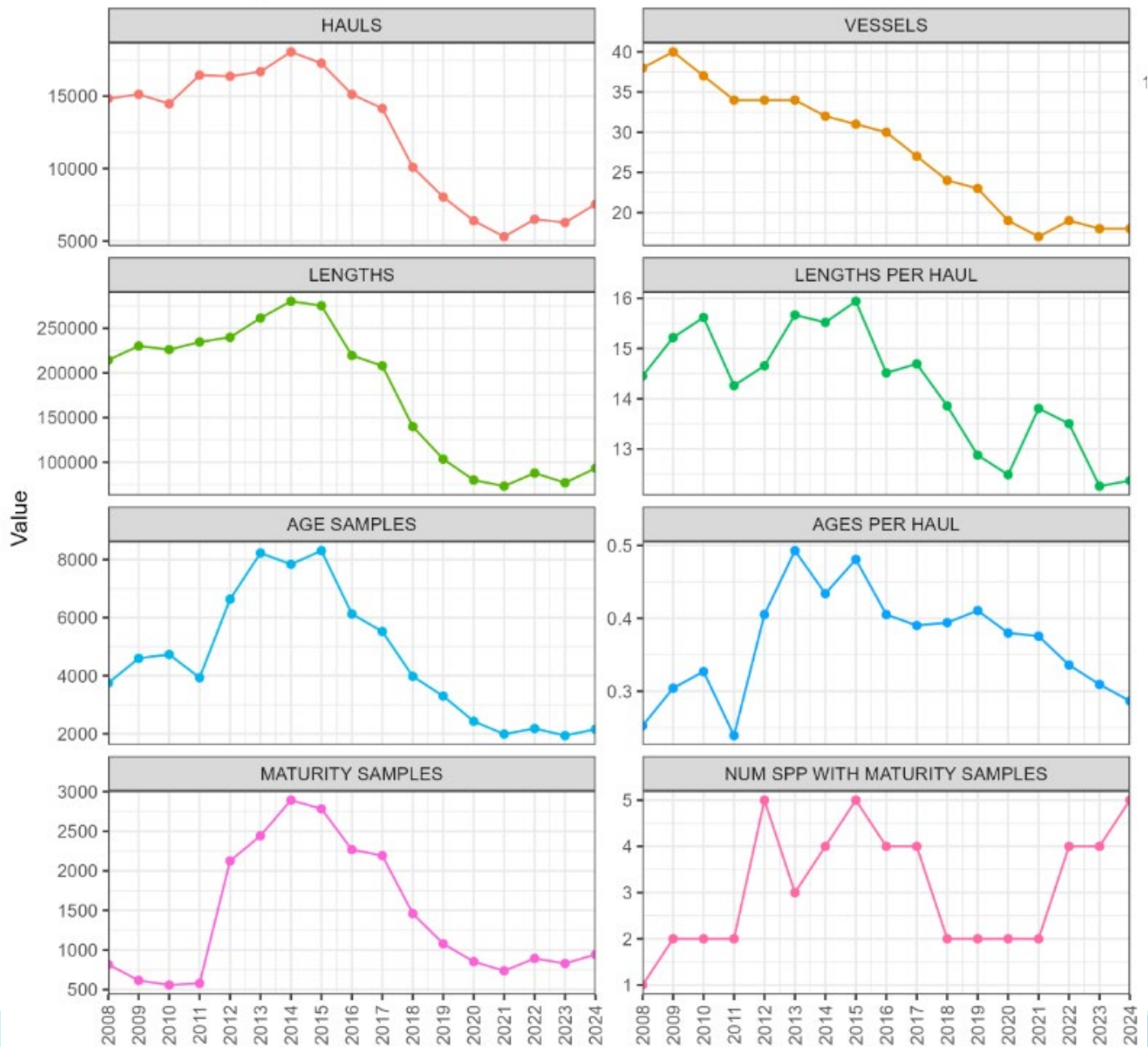
18 Freezer Longline Vessels

- 7,535 sets retrieved – over 48% were sampled by observers
- 93,199 lengths collected (from 30 different species)
- 2,159 age samples collected (from 14 different species; includes otoliths, scales, vertebrae)
- 943 maturity samples collected from Pacific cod, Pollock, Big Skates, Longnose skates, and AK skates used to determine spawning timing and status



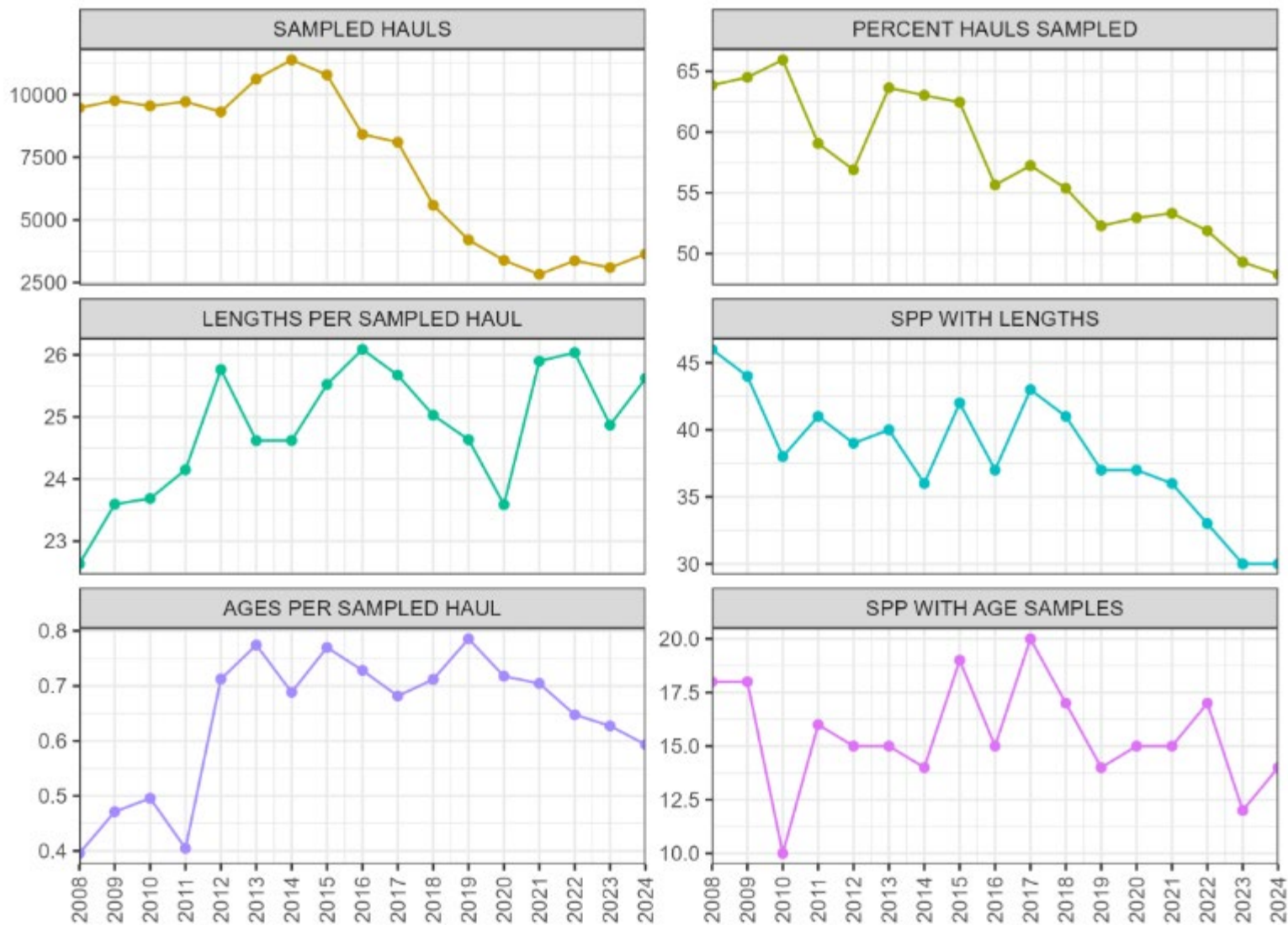
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Freezer Longliner Observer data summaries, 2008-2024



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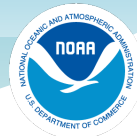
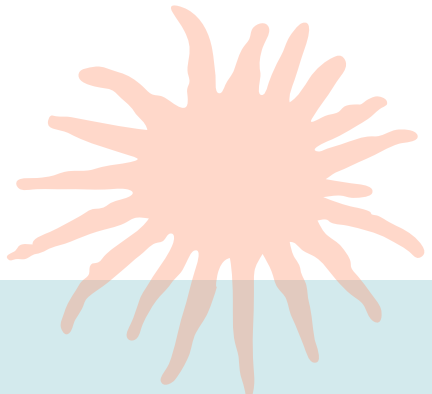
Freezer Longliner Observer data summaries, 2008-2024



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2025 Observer Data Collection Changes

- ATLAS improvements allowing for image storage and transmission in-season standardized
- Maturity Scan data for skates expanded to the Bering Sea to include Alaska Skates
- Sampling manual restructured to better outline data collections for vessels using pot gear due to increases in gear type usage
- Special research project testing updated ID guide for Sharks to identify additional species



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Keeping the Work Environment Safe

- NOAA Fisheries Office of Law Enforcement offers, “Ensuring a Safe Work Environment for Observers”
 - Jaclyn.smith@noaa.gov - Observer Liaison Agent
- NOAA’s Workplace Violence Protection and Response will provide training or consultation with industry to help ensure a safe working environment
 - Lori.Newell@noaa.gov - WVPR Regional Representative
- OLE meetings with vessel companies
 - Discussions focused on current issues detected in the fishing fleet in general and in specific sectors.



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Questions?



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